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(56) **References Cited**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A redundant reorder prevention system prevents redundant reorders for replaceable components in printing devices. The replaceable component has memory integrated therein which contains a reorder value field. The reorder value field is initially configured in a first state which indicates that a new replaceable component has not been ordered to replace the current replaceable component. Before the system orders a new replaceable component, it checks the reorder value field. If the first state is detected, a new replaceable component is ordered and the reorder value field is reconfigured to a second state which indicates that the new replaceable component has been ordered. If the second state is detected before an order is placed, the order process is terminated before a new replaceable component is ordered.

18 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

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(52) U.S. Cl. 399/10; 399/8

(58) **Field of Search** 399/10, 8, 81,

399/24, 79; 364/184



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TITLE: Redundant reorder prevention for replaceable printer components

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Brief Summary Text - BSTX (5):

For example, a toner cartridge is installed in a laser printer to provide toner for the printing process. As documents are printed, the toner supply is gradually depleted. When the toner supply is completely exhausted, the printer cannot print any further documents until the toner cartridge is replaced. At this time, a replacement toner cartridge must be ordered from a toner cartridge vendor to replace the used toner cartridge.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (15):

A host computer 68 is connected to the printer 30 and communicates with a vendor system 70 via a network 72 to order items from a vendor. The network 72 may be a local area access network (LAN), a wide area access network (WAN), the Internet, or any other configuration through which at least two computer systems may communicate.